The allegations that AIR and Doordarshan discriminate against the leaders of Left Front and State Ministers in terms of coverage are unfounded.

As news organisations, both AIR and Doordarshan adhere to the news policy and guidelines prepared by the Advisory Committee on Official Media and present news|programme in an objective, balanced and factual manner. The view points of the ruling party as well as that of the opposition are reported. The deciding factor for inclusion of items in the news is their newsworthiness.

As regards the special programme prepared by Shri M. J. Akbar and telecast on 28-12-1986, this programme included statements from the Chief Minister, West Bengal and other state leaders.

It is also not correct to say that while the Prime Minister's announcement of allocations to West Bengal was repeatedly broadcast|telecast the Chief Minister's contradiction of the Prime Minister's statistics of allocations and grants to West Bengal was not mentioned.

Statistics of break-down of the allocations and grants to West Bengal as given by the Prime Minister was noticed both by AIR and Doordarshan in a fair, objective and balanced manner. The Chief Minister's rejoinder was used in news bulletins by AIR, Calcutta, four times. On Doordarshan also, the West Bengal Chief Minister's contradiction of the Prime Minister's announcements and how much the State actually received from the Centre was telecast in the Focus programme entitled 'West Bengal at Cross Road' telecast on 28-12-1986.

Repeated telecast of sanctions to West Bengal

2633. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE. Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently (September, 1986), there was repeated Television and All India Radio broadcasting of the Prime Minister's statistics regarding financial grants and sanctions to the West Bengal State Government, while West Bengal's Chief Minister's contradiction with the statistics about how much the State actually received from the Centre was not broadcast even once; and

(b) if not, the answer to (a) in the negative, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Statistical break-down of the allocation and grants to West Bengal as given by the Prime Minister was noticed by All India Radio and Doordarshan in a fair, objective and balanced manner.

The Chief Minister's rejoinders were also used in the news bulletins by All India Radio, Calcutta on four occasions as and when these were made available.

The important announcement relating to package of economic assistance to West Bengal was telecast in both national bulletins and Calcutta regional bulletin on Doordarshan. Later on, a report on "Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi's visit to West Bengal" was telecast in which also Prime Minister's announcement of financial grant to the West Bengal Government was noticed. The West Bengal Chief Minister Mr. Jyoti Basu's contradiction of the Prime Minister's announcement and how much the states actually received from the Centre was telecast later on in the Focus Programme entitled "West Bengal at Cross Road" which was telecast on 28-12-1986.

Concessions given to the Industrialists

2634. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total value of concessions given to the industrialists and exporters through Central budgets for 1985-86 and 1986-87, including tax remission and others; and

(b) what is the estimated loss to the State exchequer on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b). Information to the extent possible is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Purchase of Chinese Fighter Planes by Pakistan

2635. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the purchase of 350 to 400 Chinese fighter planes by Pakistan, which is an improved Beijing version of the Soviet MIG 21, so as to augment and to strengthen its air force;

(b) if so, in what manner these fighter planes compare with the Indian Air Force fighter planes in terms of technology, performance and striking power;

(c) to what extent the striking power of Pak Air Force is likely to be strengthened as a consequence thereof, as compared to Indian Air Force squadrons; and

(d) what steps are contemplated by Government to keep a balance in the striking air power with Pak Air Force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) Government has seen press reports regarding Pakistan's purported interest in the acquisition of Chinese F-7M fighter planes.

(b) and (c) The performance of this fighter is stated to be similar to MIG-21 aircraft in the Indian Air Force. These aircraft are reportedly intended to replace the F-6 fleet in the Pakistan Air Force; and could be used primarily for air defence.

(d) Government is taking appropriate measures in this regard.

High production cost of Dornier 228 Aircraft in India

2636. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present cost of the HAL built Dornier 228 aircraft; and

(b) what is the international price of this aircraft and what are the reasons for its high production cost in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) The present price of the HAL built basic Dornier 228 aircraft is approximately Rs. 3.65 crores, exclusive of statutory levies and taxes, while the international price of the similar aircraft works out to approximately Rs. 4.57 crores. The price of the indigenously built aircraft is thus comparable to the international price of the similar aircraft.

दर्शकों पर विज्ञापनों का प्रभाव

2637. **श्री सत्यपाल मलिक** : क्या **सूचना और प्रसारण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को दूरदर्शन पर दिखाए जाने वाले विज्ञापनों से लोगों में उच्च स्तरीय जीवन जीने की ललक पैदा होने की संभावनाओं के खतरे के संबंध में जानकारी है ; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो क्या सरकार इन विज्ञापनों की पुनरीक्षा करने के लिए कोई संसदीय समिति नियुक्त करने का विचार रखती है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजीत पांजा) : (क) और (ख) दूरदर्शन इस समय अपने कुल प्रेषण समय का 5 प्रतिशत समय वाणिज्यिक विज्ञापनों को टेलीकास्ट करने के लिए देता है । इससे दर्शकों पर कोई